

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An image processing device having a function of recognizing a specific image from input image data, comprising:
 - an output image data generation unit which generates output image data from the input image data;
 - a recognition unit which recognizes the specific image; and
 - a converting unit for converting the input image data into recognition image data in a format which can be recognized by the recognition unit.
2. An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein the output image data generation unit generates output image data in a page description language format from the input image data, and the converting unit converts the input image data into recognition image data in a raster image format.
3. An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein a color space of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.
4. An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein resolution of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.
5. An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein the number of bits used to represent a pixel in the output image data and that in

the recognition image data are different from each other.

6. An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein each of the output image data generation unit and the converting unit performs a process per partial image, the recognition unit performs a process of recognizing the specific image per partial image and, when a possibility that at least the specific image is included is equal to or higher than a predetermined value, the recognition unit performs the operation of recognizing the specific image on the partial image together with another partial image.

7. An image processing device according to claim 1, wherein when a result of recognition by the recognition unit indicates the existence of the specific image, the output image data generation unit stops generation or output of the output image data.

8. An image processing method of recognizing a specific image from input image data, comprising the steps of:
generating output image data from the input image data;
converting the input image data into recognition image data in a format which can be recognized; and
recognizing the specific image by using the recognition image data.

9. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the output image data is in a page description language format, and the recognition image data is in a raster image format.

10. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein a color space of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.

11. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein resolution of an image formed by the output image data and that of an image formed by the recognition image data are different from each other.

12. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the number of bits used to represent a pixel in the output image data and that in the recognition image data are different from each other.

13. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein generation of the output image data and conversion to the recognition image data are performed per partial image, a process of recognizing the specific image is performed on the recognition image data per partial image and, when a possibility that at least the specific image is included is equal to or higher than a predetermined value, the operation of recognizing the specific image is performed on the partial image together with another partial image.

14. An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein when recognition of the specific image is performed by using the recognition image data and existence of the specific image is recognized, generation or output of the output image data is stopped.

15. A storage medium readable by a computer, which stores a program for recognizing a specific image from input image data, the

program making the computer execute the steps of:

generating output image data from the input image data;

converting the input image data into recognition image data in a format which can be recognized; and

recognizing the specific image by using the recognition image data.